PATENT / DOCKET NO. 10287.41

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## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RFCEIVED

Hideji Tajima

Serial No.: 09/802,152

Filed: March 8, 2001

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Group Art Unit: 1632

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

GCT 0 9 2001

Examiner: Unknown

INTEGRATED SUPPORT, INTEGRATED MINUTE VESSELS AND PERMEABLE

MEMBRANE, AND METHOD OF MAKING AND USING THE SAME

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

For:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant hereby makes of record the references set forth in the attached modified form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and not in any order based on their pertinence. The undersigned first became aware of the cited patents by their inclusion in an International Search Report issued by the ISA/US on 24 January 2001, in connection with International application no. PCT/JP01/00223, the PCT counterpart of the present application. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed.

It is requested that the Examiner fully consider the cited references and that they be cited on the front of any patent issuing from this application.

Copies of the cited references are attached.

An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

SANDRA KUBIN